

INFLATABLE MEDICAL APPLIANCE FOR PREVENTION OF DVT

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Abstract

An inflatable foot cuff for treatment of deep vein thrombosis includes a generally flexible body member (12) configured to envelop a foot of a human and having a central region (14) adjacent to the sole of the foot when applied thereon. A first inflatable air cell (30) is disposed in the central region and extends generally from at least the ball of the foot to at least the heel of the foot. A second smaller separately inflatable air cell (32) is disposed within a distal portion of the first air cell. Intermittent sequential inflation of the second distal air cell followed by inflation of the first air cell causes blood flow from the distal region of the foot to the proximal region of the foot and then up into the user's leg. The body member is also provided with preinflated air cells (46, 48) at counterforce pressure points.

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